

Message Text

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15/12

ACTION ITF-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 AID-20 FDRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 VO-03 SCA-01 INSE-00 EUR-12 /089 W

----- 120064

O R 010415Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2450

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 1793

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (CORRECT GARBLED PARAGRAPH 4.)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

REF: A. STATE 100679

B. SINGAPORE 1779

C. SINGAPORE 1704

1. TO DATE TOTAL OF 71 REFUGEES HAVE ARRIVED IN SINGAPORE THROUGH THEIR OWN MEANS. 56 ARRIVED ON APRIL 3 ABOARD VNAF C-130 AND DEPARTED SINGAPORE VIA PAA ON APRIL 25 FOR SAIPAN WHENCE THEY ARE TO BE RESETTLED THROUGH THE ICEM. FIFTEEN REFUGEES WHO ARRIVED ON APRIL 29 ABOARD C-47 ARE STILL HERE REF. B). THEY ARE ALL MEMBERS OF VIETNAMESE AIR FORCE AND INCLUDE A PILOT (A CAPTAIN) AND 14 MECHANICS. THEY ARE ALL HOUSED AND BEING WELL TREATED AT QUARANTINE STATION AT ST. JOHN'S ISLAND. SENIOR MINDEF OFFICIAL HAS ADVISED EMBASSY THAT THEY ARE CURRENTLY BEING
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SCREENED BY SINGAPORE OFFICIALS TO DETERMINE WHETHER GOS WOULD

HAVE AN INTEREST IN KEEPING THEM IN SINGAPORE AND WHETHER THEY WOULD WISH TO SETTLE HERE PERMANENTLY. GOS OFFICIAL MADE IT CLEAR THAT SINGAPORE WOULD EXPECT USG TO HANDLE RESETTLEMENT OF THOSE WHO WOULD NOT BE RESETTLED IN SINGAPORE.

2. AS REPORTED REF C, VIETNAM EMBASSY STAFF AND DEPENDENTS (TOTAL 22) HAVE REQUESTED ASYLUM IN THE U.S. GOS HAS NOT YET DETERMINED HOW LONG THEY CAN REMAIN IN SINGAPORE. HOWEVER, ONCE GOS RECOGNIZES NEW REGIME IN VIETNAM, BELIEVE IT WOULD EXPECT THEM TO DEPART PROMPTLY BEFORE THEY BECAME A POLITICAL EM-BARRASSMENT. THEY HAVE ADEQUATE FUNDS TO LIVE ON FOR AT LEAST SEVERAL WEEKS. SIX OF THIS NUMBER MAY BE WILLING TO SETTLE IN EITHER FRANCE OR ITALY.

3. VIETNAMESE CHARGE NOW ESTIMATES THERE ARE ABOUT 40 OTHER VIETNAMESE LIVING IN SINGAPORE WHO HAVE NO U.S. RELATIVES AND WILL PROBABLY REQUEST ASYLUM IN U.S.

4. FOR DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION, APPROXIMATELY 50 VIETNAMESE DEPENDENTS OF U.S. CITIZENS WITH CLAIM TO NON-QUOTA OR PREFERENCE IMMIGRANT STATUS HAVE ARRIVED IN SINGAPORE IN PAST MONTH AND IV CASES HAVE BEEN OR ARE BEING PROCESSED BY CONSULAR SECTION. ANOTHER 50 VIETNAMESE DEPENDENTS LIVING IN SINGAPORE ARE ALSO BEING PROCESSED FOR IVS. CONSULAR SECTION ESTIMATES THERE ARE ANOTHER 50 - 100 VIETNAMESE DEPENDENTS OF AMERICAN CITIZENS LIVING IN SINGAPORE WHO MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR IVS.
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